



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Atsushi ITO et al.

Group Art Unit: 3729

Application No.: 10/600,612

Examiner: T. NGUYEN

Filed: June 23, 2003

Docket No.: 116303

For: PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING NOZZLE PLATE FOR INK-JET PRINT HEAD

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed May 12, 2005, the period for reply extended by one month to July 12, 2005 by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicants provisionally elect Species B, Figure 5. Applicants submit that claims 1-10 read on elected Species B. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of the elected species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which is stated that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." (Emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay

and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-21 can be examined without undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn.

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on June 23, 2003, December 3, 2003 and March 26, 2004. It is requested that the Examiner consider the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statements and returned initialed Forms PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SMS/sxb

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 30, 2005

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